Congratulations to our two new school leaders for 2017. Tai Lewis is School Captain and Dylan Eley is Sports Captain. Both boys handled the interview well and spoke positively to the School before the election. The Leadership Induction will be held at 12:00 on Thursday 9 March. Mr David Littleproud will be in attendance for the occasion.

A reminder please to send healthy lunches to school for your children. They do have time to eat lunch. All children do need to consume brain food as part of their daily diet. A healthy lunch box should include - sandwiches/wraps/salad or food from a previous meal. Fruit/vege sticks/cheese/yoghurt and snacks. There should be more healthy food than packaged snacks. One sandwich is not enough. We have 3 eating breaks.
1) Fruit before class begins
2) 10:30am - Sandwich/wrap etc
3) 1:15pm - Sandwich/wrap etc

Please ensure that borrowed books are cared for and returned in the manner in which they were borrowed. The same applies to homework readers. Please keep water or any liquid away from the books. Once wet, the books are very hard to unstick.

The Tara & District Sports trials will be held at Meandarra on February 23 for children 10-12 years (2007, 2006, 2005). Students are eligible to trial for the Tara & District in Netball, Touch, Soccer and Rugby League. The paperwork needs to be completed and returned by Wednesday 15 February. If your child is selected, please be mindful that there will be regular training sessions.

The South West trials will be held as follows:
- Touch (Boys & Girls) - May 15 in Charleville
- Soccer (Boys & Girls) - April 28 in Chinchilla
- Netball (Girls) - April 21 in Roma
- Rugby League (Boys) - April 21 in Roma
- Rugby League (Girls) - nominations only—June 12 to Charleville.

Selection criteria is based on skill, sportsmanship, good attitude and behaviour. Children in this age group that are not participating in the trials are to attend school as normal.

Phil Kettle, the children’s author, came to school today. He spoke and worked with the children who really enjoyed it.

Swimming will begin on Friday 17 February. We will travel by bus mid morning to Moonie Pool. The children will engage in swimming lessons. Please ensure all children have togs, towel, swim shirt, sunscreen, plastic bag for wet clothes and a change of underwear for boys. Could all girls have their hair tied up please if it is long.

Swimming days will be
- Friday 17 February
- Friday 24 February
- Friday 10 March
- Friday 17 March

I will be attending a Tara & District Cluster meeting on Wednesday 15 February at Teelba.

The first P&C meeting for 2017 will be held on Wednesday 15 February at 3:30pm. Tuckshop food and helpers will be discussed. There will also be a discussion on Homework.

A reminder that iPods, iPads, iPhones or any Phones are not allowed at school and are also banned for bus travel. This is due to the fact that they are not Department devices and we cannot control their content.

During this month I will be completing the Strategic Plan for 2017-2020 and the AIP (Annual Implementation Plan). Our focus is Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

The following are a few tips on how you can help your child with reading. To get your child interested in reading, it’s important to vary the books you read together and to talk about the types of material you read each day. Our school encourages parents to work with us to develop children’s reading skills. Here are a few things to get you started:

* Play number plate games in the car by looking at different number plates and making sentences with the same letters.
* Encourage children to re-tell stories they have read and to share these stories with other family members.

Cont....

**Quote of the Week**

“Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will eat for the rest of his life” - Chinese Proverb
Newsletter folders - **PLEASE ENSURE THAT THESE ARE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL THE NEXT DAY.**

These folders are to be used as the main communication tool between families and the school. Check your child’s bag regularly for these folders, not just on newsletter day as this is how letters, notices, receipts etc will be sent home. Your child just needs to hand it back in to the office or to a staff member.

* When reading to your child, stop and ask “what do you think will happen next?” and occasionally ask “why do you think the author included that part in the story?” to ensure they understand what they are reading.

* If your child makes a mistake when they read aloud, give them time to correct the mistake themselves.


Please find listed below, the two sporting teams for The Gums State School for 2017. (Sports shirt order forms are included with the newsletter)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brigalow (Blue)</th>
<th>Belah (Green)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tai</td>
<td>Dylan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damien</td>
<td>Ben</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tilly</td>
<td>Holly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roly</td>
<td>Abi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glen</td>
<td>Liam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoe</td>
<td>Hannah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jorja</td>
<td>Noah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sasha</td>
<td>Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dustin</td>
<td>Brock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inga-Jane</td>
<td>Isabella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abi</td>
<td>Johnny</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regards,

Sue
DATES TO REMEMBER

13 Feb  Phil Kettle - Author
15 Feb  P & C Meeting
17 Feb  Swimming @ Moonie
23 Feb  Come & Try Day - Meandarra
24 Feb  Swimming @ Moonie
10 Mar  Swimming @ Moonie
17 Mar  Swimming @ Moonie

WESTEARTH CONTRACTING
Wayne & Glenda Major
Ph: 4669 2109
Mob: 0429 692109
Email: westearth@bigpond.com
For all your earthmoving or harvesting requirements
Dam de-silting or building. 4 X Volvo loaders
Cutter bar or stick raking D6 & D7H
Harvesting:
  John Deere 9860sts
  Gleaner    New Holland

If you would like to receive the school newsletter via email, please
email admin@thegumsss.eq.edu.au
with your email address to be added to the distribution list.
NB Families will still receive a hard copy in their newsletter folder.

Tuckshop Prices

Fish  $1.30
Chips $0.70 half $1.30 full cup
Sausage Roll $0.60
Party Pie $0.60
Pizza  $0.60 half $1.60 full
Nuggets $0.40
Hash Browns $0.70
Mini fish or chicken nugget & lettuce roll  $1.50
Popcorn $0.70
Milk/Juice Poppers  $1.10
Chocolate Bars  $1.10

Please fill out orders on bags for 1st and 2nd Lunch and return to school with payment on Tuckshop Day. Thank you.

Uniforms
Shirts $30; Hats $10
Long-sleeved Shirts $32
School Bags $32

Student Banking is now every Wednesday

Tuesday is library day - Please remember your library bag
The Gums Gleaner

Student behaviour while travelling on public transport

Parents and carers play an important role in teaching children about appropriate behaviour when travelling on public transport. While most students are well-behaved when travelling by public transport, a few misbehaving students can make it an unpleasant journey for all commuters. With almost a third of all Queensland students travelling to school by bus, the Department of Transport and Main Roads has developed a Code of Conduct for students travelling by bus. The Code of Conduct for School Students Travelling on Buses sets out the rights, roles and responsibilities of students, parents and carers and bus drivers to ensure a safe and enjoyable trip to and from school. To keep our students happy and safe, parents and carers are encouraged to discuss expected student behaviour with their children, including:

- Showing respect for other passengers and their property
- Waiting for the bus in an orderly manner
- Behaving appropriately at all times while on the bus
- Using only designated bus stops
- Behaving safely and using caution when getting on or off the bus
- Following directions of the driver in case of an emergency or a breakdown

The Code was developed in consultation with the Department of Education and Training, police, bus operators and parent groups. For more information and to download a copy of the Code visit the Department of Transport and Main Roads website at